

Message Text

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ACTION IO-14

INFO OCT-01 NEA-10 ISO-00 CIAE-00 COME-00 EB-08 INR-10
LAB-04 NSAE-00 SIL-01 L-03 AF-10 ARA-10 EA-10
EUR-12 PA-01 ICA-11 (ISO) W
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FM USMISSION GENEVA
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 8734
INFO AMEMBASSY TUNIS

C O N F I D E N T I A L GENEVA 06101

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: ILO, ELAB, PORG
SUBJECT: ILO: IMEC MEETING ON STRUCTURE

REF: (A) STATE 90970, (B) STATE 100518

1. IMEC MEETING APRIL 20 DID NOT ADDRESS U.S. VIEWS CONCERNING AMENDMENTS TO ARTICLE 17 OF STANDING ORDERS OF THE ILO (REF A). INSTEAD MEETING FOCUSED ON HOW TO DEAL WITH VENEZUELAN PROPOSAL ON ARTICLE 7 OF THE ILO CONSTITUTION. THAT PROPOSAL, FORWARDED TO MISSIONS IN GENEVA FEBRUARY 22, WOULD EXPAND THE GOVERNING BODY TO 50 SEATS DISTRIBUTED AMONG ASIAN, LATIN AMERICA, AND AFRICAN STATES, INDUSTRIALIZED MARKET ECONOMY COUNTRIES, AND STATES WITH CENTRALLY PLANNED ECONOMIES (EASTERN EUROPE).

2. AFTER CONSIDERABLE DEBATE, PARTICIPANTS AGREED BEST TACTIC WOULD BE TO IGNORE THE VENEZUELAN INITIATIVE SINCE IT HAD NOT BECOME THE BASIS FOR DISCUSSION BETWEEN THE G-77 AND IMEC. EC-9, AUSTRALIA AND NEW ZEALAND TOOK LEAD IN DEVELOPING CONCEPT THAT IF IMEC RESPONDED TO THE VENEZUELAN PROPOSAL IT MIGHT GIVE PROPOSAL STATURE AMONG G-77. JAPAN, MOST VIGOROUSLY, SECONDED BY CANADA, CONFIDENTIAL

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THOUGHT VENEZUELAN PROPOSAL SHOULD BE MET HEAD-ON IN ORDER TO KILL IT BEFORE IT POSSIBLY COULD GAIN MOMENTUM.

3. IMEC PLANS TO WAIT FOR RESPONSE FROM G-77 DURING GOVERNMENT WORKING PARTY STRUCTURE MEETING APRIL 24-29 TO IMEC ARTICLE 7 PROPOSALS, AND THEN TO HOLD MEETING ON SHORT NOTICE TO FORMULATE NEXT STEP. JAPAN REPS,

HOWEVER, INDICATED THAT WHILE THEY WOULD MAKE IT CLEAR THEY WERE NOT ACTING IN BEHALF OF IMEC, WOULD INFORMALLY ADVISE G-77 LEADERS THAT VENEZUELAN PROPOSAL WOULD BE UNACCEPTABLE -- IN ANY FORM.

4. DANISH REP INFORMED LABATT THAT AMBASSADOR KASTOFT, BECAUSE OF DUTIES WITH EC-9 ON OTHER ISSUES, HAD NOT YET GIVEN ATTENTION TO U.S. VIEWS ON ARTICLE 17. HE PLANS TO DO SO OVER WEEKEND AND WOULD GIVE US HIS REACTION EARLY DURING STRUCTURE MEETING. VANDEN HEUVEL

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Message Attributes

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